

participate in recreation activities away from the camping/picnic site including, but not limited to, backpacking, hiking, beachcombing, hunting, surfing etc. The following developed camping and picnic sites are covered under this restriction: Mattole, Tolkan, Horse Mountain, Honeydew Creek, and Waitaki.

**C. Vehicle Barriers:** Taking any vehicle through, around, or beyond any structure, restrictive sign, recognizable barricade, fence, gate, or traffic control barrier is prohibited.

**D. Camping Closure:** BLM administered lands within the following areas are closed to camping (overnight occupancy) outside of developed campgrounds: Public Lands within 500 feet of Chemise Mountain Road; Public Lands within 500 feet of Shelter Cove Road between milepost 5 and the intersection with Chemise Mountain Road; Public Lands adjacent to Lower Pacific Drive including Mal Coombs Park, Seal Rock Picnic Area, Abalone Point, and all other BLM managed oceanfront lots within the Shelter Cove Subdivision; Public Lands south of Telegraph Creek and north of Humboldt Creek known as the Black Sands Beach Parking Area; Public Lands within Township 3 South, Range 1 East, Sections 6 and 7 known as the Honeydew Creek parcel; and Public Lands within 500 feet of King Peak Road between milepost 2 and 7.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** These Supplementary Rules will be effective on May 20, 1997.

**COMMENT PERIOD:** The BLM is requesting comments concerning these supplemental rules. The comment period will be open for 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The above supplementary rules are being proposed for the following purposes:

**A. Parking, Black Sands Beach:** Wave erosion of the existing parking area has severely reduced its size to the point that larger vehicles and trailers cannot safely park or turn around, especially since the lot is often filled to capacity. Enlargement of the existing lot is not feasible, and efforts are being made to acquire an alternate parking area to accommodate larger vehicles.

**B. Parking, Developed Camping and Picnic Sites:** This rule is intended to be used in conjunction with an improved information program to increase the efficiency of use at developed camping/picnic areas. Presently, visitors often park in camp/picnic sites to hike, backpack or pursue other activities that do not require use of the site. Comparable access for these activities is available from nearby parking locations.

Often, all campsites are full, denying use to additional campers/picnickers, while these nearby parking areas have spots available.

**C. Vehicle Barriers:** Self explanatory.

**D. Camping Closure:** The closure along segments of Chemise Mountain and Shelter Cove Roads is intended to protect critical salmon spawning and rearing habitat along the Bear Creek corridor from impacts. The oceanfront lots and parks (Seal Rock, Abalone Point and Mal Coombs) along Lower Pacific Drive are in a residential area and are not designed to accommodate overnight use. The closure along King Peak Road and of the Honeydew Creek Parcel is intended to reduce resource damage and maintenance costs from increased numbers of visitors camping in undeveloped sites adjacent to developed campgrounds so that they can use the facilities without paying fees. Because of extensive wave erosion, the Black Sands Beach Parking Area no longer has the capacity to accommodate any tent or vehicle camping. Violation of any of the above supplementary rules is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100,000, and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months (43 CFR 8360.0-7).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Lynda J. Roush, Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Resource Area Manager, 1695 Heindon Rd., Arcata, CA 95521, phone (707) 825-2300.

**Daniel E. Averill,**

*Acting Arcata Resource Area Manager.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### North Country National Scenic Trail

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of final trailway plans for Kent County, Michigan, and Columbiana and Carroll Counties, Ohio.

**SUMMARY:** A public planning process has been conducted in Kent County, Michigan, and Columbiana and Carroll Counties, Ohio, to select a specific route or trailway for the North Country National Scenic Trail in those counties. The planning process identified and mapped a specific "corridor of opportunity" within which public and private partners working to establish and manage the trail will work to secure lands on which the actual footpath can be constructed. This will require the cooperation of willing landowners. Lands may be secured by outright

purchase, easement, lease, or voluntary use agreements. The identified corridor is several landowners wide to allow flexibility in working with willing landowners to find a mutually agreeable alignment for the trail. A copy of either trailway plan can be obtained by writing to the National Park Service, 700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 100, Madison, Wisconsin 53711, or by calling 608-264-5610.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Superintendent Tom Gilbert, Ice Age, North Country, and Lewis and Clark National Trails, at the address or telephone number given above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In March 1980, Federal legislation authorized the establishment of the North Country National Scenic Trail (NST) as a component of the National Trails System (16 U.S.C. 1241 *et seq.*). The trail will extend more than 3,200 miles across seven north States: New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and North Dakota. Approximately 1,321 miles are completed and open to public use. A comprehensive management plan, published in September 1982 identified a general route for the trail.

Dated: March 18, 1997.

**David N. Given,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Midwest Regional Office.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Availability of Plan of Operations and Environmental Assessment for Drilling an Exploratory Oil and Gas Well; Royal Production Company, Incorporated, Big Thicket National Preserve, Hardin County, Texas

Notice is hereby given in accordance with regulations at Section 9.52(b) of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 9, Subpart B, that the National Park Service has accepted a Plan of Operations from Royal Production Company, Inc., to drill an exploratory oil and gas well within Big Thicket National Preserve, Hardin County, Texas.

The Plan of Operations and corresponding Environmental Assessment are available for public review and comment for a period of 30 days from the publication date of this notice. Such documents can be viewed during normal business hours at the Office of the Superintendent, Big Thicket National Preserve, 3785 Milam,